

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/085,227

Examiner

Nathan Hillery

Applicant(s)

LINKER ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE, 10/14/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 45-47, 50-55, 58, 59, 61-63, 65 and 66.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/14/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/11/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

William S. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
11/12/2005

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Burns on 11/10/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 48, 49, 56, 57, 60, and 64.

45. A computer-implemented method for processing an electronic document including content, the electronic document having a visual composition of the content, the method comprising:

displaying the visual composition of the electronic document;

receiving a first user input specifying a location for an insertion-point cursor representing an insertion position in the content and displaying the insertion-point cursor in the visual composition, the insertion position being a position in the content where user-typed characters are placed;

in response to the first input, determining whether one or more markers in the content are adjacent to the insertion position, the markers not being represented in the visual composition;

if one or more markers in the content are adjacent to the insertion position, generating a visual representation of each marker or unbroken sequence of markers

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adjacent to the insertion position, wherein generating a visual representation of each marker or unbroken sequence of markers comprises displaying the visual representation in a tip window;

receiving a second user input to navigate a markers cursor among the markers in the visual representation, the markers cursor being a cursor displayed in the visual representation; and

closing the tip window when user has moved the insertion-point cursor so that the insertion position is not adjacent to any markers.

53. A computer product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, operable to cause a data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:

displaying the visual composition of the electronic document;

receiving a first user input specifying a location for an insertion-point cursor representing an insertion position in the content and displaying the insertion-point cursor in the visual composition, the insertion position being a position in the content where user-typed characters are placed;

in response to the first input, determining whether one or more markers in the content are adjacent to the insertion position, the markers not being represented in the visual composition;

if one or more markers in the content are adjacent to the insertion position, generating a visual representation of each marker or unbroken sequence of markers adjacent to the insertion position, wherein generating a visual representation of each

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marker or unbroken sequence of markers comprises displaying the visual representation in a tip window;

receiving a second user input to navigate a markers cursor among the markers in the visual representation, the markers cursor being a cursor displayed in the visual representation; and

closing the tip window when user has moved the insertion-point cursor so that the insertion position is not adjacent to any markers.

59. (New) A computer-implemented method for processing an electronic document including content, the electronic document having a visual composition of the content, the method comprising:

displaying a visual composition of an electronic document;

receiving a first user input specifying one or more portions of content;

in response to the first input, determining whether one or more markers exist in the specified portions, the markers not being represented in a visual composition;

if one or more markers exist in the specified portions, generating a visual representation of the markers in the specified portions, wherein generating a visual representation of each marker or unbroken sequence of markers comprises displaying the visual representation in a tip window;

receiving a second user input to navigate a markers cursor among the markers being displayed in the visual representation, the markers cursor being a cursor displayed in the visual representation and not in the visual composition; and

closing the tip window when user has moved the insertion-point cursor so that the insertion position is not adjacent to any markers.

63. A computer product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, operable to cause a data processing apparatus to perform operations comprising:

- displaying a visual composition of an electronic document;
- receiving a first user input specifying one or more portions of content;
- in response to the first input, determining whether one or more markers exist in the specified portions, the markers not being represented in a visual composition;
- if one or more markers exist in the specified portions, generating a visual representation of the markers in the specified portions, wherein generating a visual representation of each marker or unbroken sequence of markers comprises displaying the visual representation in a tip window;
- receiving a second user input to navigate a markers cursor among the markers being displayed in the visual representation, the markers cursor being a cursor displayed in the visual representation and not in the visual composition; and
- closing the tip window when user has moved the insertion-point cursor so that the insertion position is not adjacent to any markers.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of record, Microsoft Word 2000, teaches annotating text in a document and editing the annotations within the document. However, Microsoft Word

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2000 fails to teach or otherwise render obvious either alone or in combination with the other prior art of record having markers adjacent to text in a document in which the markers are not visible in the document. Additionally, the fact that each marker adjacent to the position of the I-beam cursor is displayed automatically in a tip window as exemplified in Figure 5. These particular features in combination with the other limitations of the independent claims read in light of the specification render the independent claims and consequently the dependent claims novel and unobvious in view of the prior art cited in the instant case.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed 10/14/05 was not considered because it is an exact duplicate of the information disclosure statement filed 9/23/02. The information disclosure statement filed 9/23/02 was considered and the considered and initialed copy is being provided for Applicant's review.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan Hillery whose telephone number is (571) 272-4091. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, 10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on (571) 272-4136. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NH

William S Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
11/12/2005